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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/773,556	02/05/2004	Johnnie R. Crean	ALFALE.056A	3559
20995	7590	02/25/2005	EXAMINER	
KNOBBE MARTENS OLSON & BEAR LLP 2040 MAIN STREET FOURTEENTH FLOOR IRVINE, CA 92614			GUTMAN, HILARY L	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3612	

DATE MAILED: 02/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<i>P</i> <b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/773,556	CREAN, JOHNNIE R.	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 January 2005.  
 2a) This action is **FINAL**.                            2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

4) Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) 1-6, 10-21 and 25-29 is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 32-40 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) 7 and 22-24 is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 05 February 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/12/04.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Election/Restrictions***

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Species H in the reply filed on 1/6/05 is acknowledged.
2. No claims are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in the reply filed on 1/6/05.

### ***Drawings***

3. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the piston, solenoid components, hydraulic components, and the pneumatic components of claims 11, 17, and 31; the gear driven motor of claim 39; and the piston of claim 40 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the

renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

*Specification*

4. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

On page 24, [0083], line 4, "509a" should be "508a".

On page 25, [0084], line 2, "519A" should be "518a". On line 3, "519B" should apparently be "518b". On line 5, "519A" should be "518a". On line 6, "509A" should apparently be "508a". On line 7, "509A" should be "508b". At [0086], line 3, "519A" should instead be "518a". On line 5, "509B" should be "508b".

On page 26, line 1, "509A" should be "508a".

On page 26, at [0087], line 13, "5378" should be "538".

On page 27, [0089], on the last line, "519A" should be "518a". In [0091], line 4, "538b" should be "538".

On page 28, [0092], line 5, "5542" should be "554". Appropriate correction is required.

5. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

*Claim Objections*

6. Claims 7-9, 22-23, and 33-35 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claims 7, 8, and 9, on line 1, “section” should be added after “movable floor”.

In claim 22, line 1, “the first lip component” should apparently be “a second lip component” since this lip component is not apparently the same as that recited in claim 20. On line 3, “first” should be “second”.

In claim 23, line 2, “a second lip component” should be “the first lip component” since this component refers back to the first lip component recited in claim 20. On line 3, “towards” should apparently be “with”. On line 4, “second” should apparently be “first”.

For claim 33, perhaps the first two lines should simply recite “...wherein the recreational vehicle has a chassis...”

For claim 34, perhaps the first two lines should recite “...wherein the recreational vehicle is a motorhome.”

For claim 35, perhaps the first two lines should recite “...wherein a deployment and retraction mechanism moves the slide-out room...” Appropriate correction is required.

*Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112*

7. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

8. Claims 8-9, and 30-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 8 is altogether unclear as to what the applicant intends to recite. The limitations of the claim do not appear to be supported by the specification or shown in the drawing figures. In the second orientation the slide-out housing is not apparently deployed but is instead retracted. Furthermore, the floor of the slide-out housing is apparently at the second level not the third as recited.

In claims 8 and 9, line 2, the slide-out housing is recited to "engage with" the inclined lower end which is unclear since in claim 1 the housing is recited as having a floor with an inclined lower end. Perhaps "engage with" should be modified.

Claim 30 recites the limitation "a recreational vehicle" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 32 recites the limitations "the main housing" in line 3, "a recreational vehicle" in line 3, "the floor" in line 4, and "the outer wall" in line 6. There is insufficient antecedent basis for these limitations in the claim.

*Allowable Subject Matter*

9. Claims 1-6, 10-11, 12-21, and 25-29 are allowed.
10. Claims 7 and 22-24 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
11. Claims 32-40 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

12. Claims 8-9 and 30-31 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Conclusion***

13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hilary Gutman whose telephone number is 703-305-0496.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Dayoan can be reached on 703-308-3102. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

15. **Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**or faxed to:**

(703) 872-9326, (for formal communications intended for entry)

**or:**

(703) 746-3515, (for informal or draft communications, please clearly label  
“PROPOSED” or “DRAFT”).



Hilary Gutman  
February 15, 2005